

CLASS SPECIFICATION
County of Fairfax, Virginia

CLASS CODE: 3631

TITLE: MH/MR/ADS SENIOR CLINICIAN

GRADE: S-24

DEFINITION:

Under administrative supervision, functions autonomously as a licensed primary therapist in a specified outpatient program, performing a comprehensive array of professional treatment services for the most acute mental health population and requiring extensive clinical expertise; OR serves as a primary therapist in a recognized area of specialty, requiring additional licensure or certification (i.e. Assistant House Director and Family Therapist, Forensics); and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

The MH/MR/ADS Senior Clinician differs from the class below in that the MH/MR/ADS Senior Clinician provides diagnoses, initial and continuous assessment, treatment and case management with significant independence, whereas the Mental Health Therapist provides the same array of treatment services under clinical supervision.

The MH/MR/ADS Senior Clinician differs from the class above in that the MH/MR/ADS Senior Clinician performs as a licensed or certified therapist/counselor, whereas the class above supervises a group of professional therapists/counselors which may include program and facility management, or functions as a certified therapist assigned to Emergency Services or the Mobile Crisis Unit.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:

Performs complex evaluations and makes independent diagnoses using Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders;
Provides individual, family and group treatment;
Maintains a diverse caseload of clients with acute, chronic mental illness;
Approves and/or implements therapeutic treatment plans;
Conducts intensive clinical interventions;
Provides family therapy in a residential setting;
Recommends, monitors, and coordinates clinical care to non-Community Services Board clients;
Prepares court-ordered diagnostic and forensic evaluations, including competency to stand trial, sexual abnormality, presentencing, and sanity at time of offense;
Provides discharge planning and coordination of after-care service plans for clients leaving state, local, and private psychiatric hospitals;
Collaborates with service professionals as participant/lead of Interdisciplinary Team (IDT);
Consults with professionals on a variety of problems including delivery of needed services for clinically complex cases;
Provides liaison to community agencies to facilitate communication and service provision for clients requiring multiple services;
Monitors and analyzes the impact of psychotropic medication on client's functioning and mental status;
Provides risk assessments for dangerousness to self and others;

Provides crisis stabilization and crisis management.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Extensive knowledge of the principles, theories, and methods of the psychological and social development of the individual;
Thorough knowledge of intake procedures, social history development, and interviewing techniques;
Thorough knowledge of major schools of treatment of emotionally and socially disturbed individuals;
Knowledge of psychiatric, psychological, and/or sociological terminology and concepts;
Ability to conduct mental health assessments and apply treatment approaches/modalities;
Ability to formulate diagnoses for clients with acute, chronic, severe mental illness;
Ability to diagnostically interpret data obtained from psychological test results, social histories, and interviews;
Ability to develop and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, public and private sector organizations, community groups, and the general public;
Ability to monitor and analyze the impact of psychotropic medications;
Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to the following:
Graduation from an accredited college or university with a master's degree in psychology, social work, or a related field; PLUS
Two years of professional experience in a mental health, substance abuse, or mental retardation setting.

CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:

Valid Motor Vehicle Driver's license with fewer than six demerit points (or equivalent in another state) at time of appointment and maintained throughout employment with CSB, for positions in residential programs.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Criminal background record check;
TB screening upon hire and annually thereafter.

Employees hired after 7/1/00 must be licensed in one of the following: Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Professional Counselor, Clinical Psychologist, Clinical Nurse Specialist, or Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioner.

REVISED:	July 18, 2000
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